

**MINUTES
OF THE
LA PAZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Monday, January 5, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
Regular Meeting**

Chairman Irwin called the January 5, 2015, 10:00 a.m. regular meeting of the La Paz County Board of Supervisors to order at 10:00 a.m. Elected Officials and Department Heads present were: Chairman Irwin, Supervisor Wilson, Supervisor Clapperton, County Administrator/Clerk of the Board Field, Deputy County Attorney Buckelew, Interim Public Works Director Simmons, Golf Professional Benton, Community Development Administrator Yackley, School Superintendent Price, Assessor Schuler; Deputy Clerk of the Board Green.

Chairman Irwin led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation given by Deputy Clerk of the Board Green.

Presentation: “Sandy Dodge Employee Excellence Award”

Dorothy Fenech, Safety Committee Chairman, presented Spencer Arnold, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer with the Community Development Department, with the Sandy Dodge Employee Excellence Award along with a \$25 gift certificate to Walmart.

Recognition of employees with 25 years of service to La Paz County

Chairman Irwin recognized and presented Frank Vidrine, Sheriff Deputy; Joaquin Lopez, Assistant Superintendent for Emerald Canyon Golf Course; and Lillian A. Miller, Career Center Director; with desk clocks for their 25 years of service to La Paz County.

Current Event Summary

County Administrator Field stated that the Arizona Legislative Session would start soon and the County Supervisors Association representatives will be putting forth a legislative schedule approved by the Boards of Supervisors. He added that, with the State’s own issues, it remains to see what happens.

CONSENT AGENDA *(Discussion and possible action on the following items):*

County Administrator Field presented for approval Consent Agenda Items #6(a) through #6(n).

CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

6(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve the minutes of Monday, December 15, 2014, 10:00 a.m. regular meeting.

6(b) Approval of Payroll

Approve November 30, 2014, through December 27, 2014, gross payroll, as presented, in the amount of \$786,633.42, plus employer benefit contributions of \$169,968.36, for a total of \$956,601.78, including handwritten warrants.

6(c) Approval of Demands

Approve the demands, as presented, for FY2014/2015, in the amount of \$871,520.76, including handwritten warrants.

6(d) Appoint Ranger II, a vacant budgeted position– Parks (Replacement/Promotion)

Approve to promote Robert Jensen, Park Ranger I, to the position of Park Ranger II, retroactive to December 28, 2014, at an annual salary of \$26,008.74 (NE054, Step 1); a vacant budgeted position.

6(e) Appoint Ranger I, a vacant budgeted position- Parks (Replacement)

Approve to appoint James Dingman to the position of Park Ranger I, retroactive to December 28, 2014, at an annual salary of \$23,609.25 (NE053, Step 1).

6(f) Appoint Appraiser I, a vacant budgeted position – Assessor (Replacement)

Approve to appoint Angelica Penalosa to the position of Appraiser I, retroactive to December 29, 2014, at an annual salary of \$27,808.35 (NE007, Step 1), contingent upon successful completion of Level I Appraiser classes; a vacant budgeted position.

6(g) Appoint Voter Registration Coordinator, a vacant budgeted position – Recorder (Replacement).

Approve to appoint Yvonne Yazzie to the position of Voter Registration Coordinator, retroactive to December 15, 2014, at an annual salary of \$27,331 (NE087, Step 1); a vacant budgeted position.

6(h) Appoint two (2) uncertified Deputies, vacant budgeted positions – Sheriff (Replacements)

Approve to transfer Michael McKarson and Steven Portugal, uncertified Detention Officers, to the positions of Deputy, effective January 12, 2015, at starting salaries of \$39,000, increasing to \$41,369.74 (L07, Step 1); vacant budgeted positions, with a one year probation period upon completion of the FRO Program.

6(i) Appoint Paul Julien, Lawrence King, Amanda Lilly, James Putz-Artrup and Pamela Shirley as Pro Tem Justices of the Peace, pursuant to A.R.S. §22-121(A), retroactive to January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015, without compensation – Superior Court

Approve to appoint Paul Julien, Lawrence King, Amanda Lilly, James Putz-Artrup and Pamela Shirley as Pro Tem Justices of the Peace, pursuant to A.R.S. §22-121(A), retroactive to January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015, and without compensation.

6(j) Appoint Jerry Landau as Pro Tem Justice of the Peace, pursuant to A.R.S. §22-121(A), effective July 1, 2015, ending June 30, 2016 – Superior Court

Approve to appoint Jerry Landau as Pro Tem Justice of the Peace, pursuant to A.R.S. §22-121(A), effective July 1, 2015, ending June 30, 2016, and without compensation.

6(k) Approve FFY15 Arizona Emergency Response Commission’s “Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant – Emergency Services

Approve FFY15 Arizona Emergency Response Commission’s “Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant in the amount of \$1,500.

6(l) Approve to appoint member to the Industrial Development Authority Board of Directors – Board of Supervisors

Approve to appoint Ron Swan as member to the Industrial Development Authority Board of Directors.

6(m) Approve recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control for Special Event application submitted by Susan Elizabeth Dewar on behalf of the Tri-Valley Improvement Association for an event at the Centennial Community Center, located at 69725 Centennial Park Road, in Wenden, on Saturday, February 14, 2015 – Board of Supervisors

Recommend approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control for Special Event application submitted by Susan Elizabeth Dewar on behalf of the Tri-Valley Improvement Association for an event at the Centennial Community Center, located at 69725 Centennial Park Road, in Wenden, on Saturday, February 14, 2015.

6(n) Approve letter of authorization to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on behalf of the Best in the Desert for use of County roads for the Parker 250 event on January 10, 2015; and the Bluewater Parker 425 event on February 7, 2015 – Board of Supervisors

Approve letter of authorization to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on behalf of the Best in the Desert for use of County roads for the Parker 250 event on January 10, 2015; and the Bluewater Parker 425 event on February 7, 2015.

SUPERVISOR WILSON MOVED to approve Consent Agenda Items #6(a) through #6(n). Motion seconded by Supervisor Clapperton, passed unanimously.

Chairman Irwin recessed the Board of Supervisors and convened the Jail District Board of Directors at 10:12 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA (*Discussion and possible action on the following items*):

County Administrator Field presented for approval Jail Consent Agenda Items #7(a) through #7(d).

7(a) Approval of Jail District Payroll

Approve November 30, 2014, through December 27, 2014, gross payroll, as presented, in the amount of \$120,155.22, plus employer benefit contributions of \$24,429.38, for a total of \$144,584.60, including handwritten warrants.

7(b) Approval of Jail District Demands

Approve the Jail District demands for FY2014/2015, in the amount of \$78,806.17, including handwritten warrants.

7(c) Appoint two (2) uncertified Detention Officers, vacant budgeted positions (Replacements)

Approve to appoint Nelson Wells and Christina Hernandez to the positions of uncertified Detention Officers, effective January 12, 2015, with starting salaries of \$30,763.20 (L02, Step 1); requiring successful completion of the Arizona Detention Academy within one year; with a six month probation period for the Sheriff Department, and an additional six months probation period for the County.

7(d) Appoint Detention Support Specialist, a vacant budgeted position (Replacement)

Approve to appoint Kezia Greene to the position of Detention Support Specialist, effective January 12, 2015, at a salary of \$24,606.40 (NE018, Step 2); a vacant budgeted position, with a six month probationary period.

SUPERVISOR CLAPPERTON MOVED to approve Jail Consent Agenda Items #7(a) through #7(d). Motion seconded by Chairman Irwin, passed unanimously.

Chairman Irwin recessed the Jail District Board of Directors and reconvened the Board of Supervisors at 10:14 a.m.

REGULAR AGENDA (*Discussion and possible action on the following items*):

Tax Roll Corrections – Assessor

County Administrator Field, on behalf of Assessor Schuler, presented five (5) tax roll corrections for the net amount of -\$1,689.38 as follows:

#2014.TRC.425S7	-\$56.78	#2014.TRC.425S8	-\$1,357.04
#2014.TRC.425S9	+\$9.58	#2014.TRC.425S11	-\$187.64
#2014.TRC.425S12	-\$97.52		

CHAIRMAN IRWIN MOVED to approve five (5) tax roll corrections for the net amount of -\$1,689.38, as presented by County Administrator Field on behalf of Assessor Schuler. Motion seconded by Supervisor Wilson, passed unanimously.

County Administrator Field suggested that item #9 *Approving Certification of the Assessors 2015 Tax Rolls* be moved up the agenda for the possibility that the Assessor would appear at the meeting later with the information.

Discussion and possible action to approve indefinite closure of the Northern-most portion of Riverside Drive due to the liability potential created by recurring rock slides – Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Clapperton stated that a falling rock issue relating to a portion of Riverside Drive has occurred once again, with a massive fall of boulders on the roadway, resulting again in its closure in August, 2014.

He stated that closure of the roadway happened in the past for the same reasons, and a fence was installed to protect the road from falling rock, and the road was reopened. He added that the situation appears to be unchanged with the continued occurrence of falling rock within the Northern-most portion of Riverside Drive, approximately one mile from the Sundance Saloon to the Buckskin State Park at the Highway S95 intersection. He further added that, with the receipt of professional opinions on the instability of the rock formations on this road, he recommended the indefinite closure of the road for the purposes of public safety and the potential liability created by the recurring rock slides.

He stated that the road appears to have no exclusive purpose except for its scenery, and access to nearby business can be provided by other roads.

Chairman Irwin and Supervisor Wilson both agreed with the recommendation, noting that the area is very unstable and should be closed to traffic.

Chairman Irwin added that if the public wished to have the information provided to the Board, it could be obtained by a Request for Public Information.

SUPERVISOR CLAPPERTON MOVED to approve indefinite closure of the Northern-most portion of Riverside Drive due to the liability potential created by recurring rock slides. Motion seconded by Supervisor Wilson, passed unanimously.

Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with La Paz Economic Development Corporation and authorize payment of 2nd and 3rd quarter funding – Board of Supervisors

County Administrator Field presented for approval a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with La Paz Economic Development Corporation (EDC) as requested by the Board during budget sessions, from each of the entities that receive public funds.

He stated that the MOU would clarify how each entity operates; and would authorize release of the funding that had been held in receipt of the MOU.

Chairman Irwin suggested a change to the MOU, to indicate that the “term of agreement” reflecting an automatic renewal of one year instead of two years, coinciding with the yearly budget schedules.

Supervisor Wilson stated that he felt the MOU served to “lay the groundwork” for a relationship with the EDC, and agreed with the change of renewal term.

SUPERVISOR WILSON MOVED to approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with La Paz Economic Development Corporation (EDC) with a change to the renewal term to read “one year” in lieu of two years. Motion seconded by Supervisor Clapperton, passed unanimously.

Certification of the 2015 Tax Rolls – Assessor

Chief Deputy Assessor Jones addressed the Board regarding the certification of the 2015 Tax Rolls stating that the “final numbers” were not yet available, and asked for continuance of this item to the next Board meeting.

Brief comments were made noting that it was not yet clear as to why the figures could not be obtained through their system; however, attempts are still being made to find out what the problem is; suggesting possibly through the programming.

CHAIRMAN IRWIN MOVED to continue the Certification of the 2015 Tax Roll to the January 20, 2015, regular meeting. Motion seconded by Supervisor Wilson, passed unanimously.

Approve to appoint the Arizona Attorney General's Office to represent La Paz County in Solarcity Corp. et al v. Arizona Department of Revenue et al, Arizona Tax Court case No. TX 2014-000189, a tax appeal for tax year 2015 regarding central valuation of plaintiff owned grid-tied photovoltaic systems – County Attorney

Deputy County Attorney Buckelew explained that litigation with the Department of Revenue (DOR) is represented by the Attorney General's Office, who typically takes it upon themselves to also represent the various Counties when they are also named in a suit collectively.

He stated that this item is regarding a solar company who objects to be taxed for solar property that is leased by homeowners and that generate a significant amount of electricity that is released to a local utility grid. He explained that the DOR has taken the position that, although statute indicates that property improvements are not taxable, collectively they are no different than a solar field that would generate energy from a merchant owned facility. He stated that this has been on ongoing dispute with solar companies for some time; and the DOR seeks to "centrally value" these facilities as opposed through the local Assessor.

Supervisor Wilson noted that this situation has no affect on the agreements the County has with Tioga Solar.

County Administrator Field agreed that Tioga Solar is "not a party" to any of these lawsuits.

SUPERVISOR WILSON MOVED to approve appointment of the Arizona Attorney General's Office to represent La Paz County in Solarcity Corp. et al v. Arizona Department of Revenue et al, Arizona Tax Court case No. TX 2014-000189, a tax appeal for tax year 2015 regarding central valuation of plaintiff owned grid-tied photovoltaic systems. Motion seconded by Supervisor Clapperton, passed unanimously.

Approve to appoint the Arizona Attorney General's Office to represented La Paz County in Sunrun Inc., v Arizona Department of Revenue et al, Arizona Tax Court case No. TX 2014-000329, a tax appeal for tax year 2015 regarding central valuation of plaintiff owned grid-tied photovoltaic systems – County Attorney

Deputy County Attorney Buckelew stated that this item is similar to the previous situation, and it was before the Board to approve the same legal representation.

La Paz County Board of Supervisors
Monday, January 5, 2015, 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

SUPERVISOR WILSON MOVED to approve appointment of the Arizona Attorney General’s Office to represented La Paz County in Sunrun Inc., v Arizona Department of Revenue et al, Arizona Tax Court case No. TX 2014-000329, a tax appeal for tax year 2015 regarding central valuation of plaintiff owned grid-tied photovoltaic systems. Motion seconded by Supervisor Clapperton, passed unanimously.

Approve proposal from Konica Minolta Business Solutions for the lease purchase of a copier for Community Development through a Mohave County contract; and authorize the Community Development Administrator to enter into said agreements as required and approved by the County Attorney’s office – Community Development

Community Development Administrator Yackley requested approval to lease purchase a copier to replace one that “has seen better days”. She stated that the department seeks to purchase a Konica Minolta copier for \$9,596.21, a budgeted item, with a five-year purchase agreement at 5.99% interest.

She stated that Deputy County Attorney Buckelew had a few issues with the contract; however, she will work with him and the seller to iron out those issues. She added that she included comparison quotes in the information packet to the Board.

SUPERVISOR WILSON MOVED to approve the proposal from Konica Minolta Business Solutions for the lease purchase of a copier for Community Development through a Mohave County contract for a total purchase price of \$9,596.21, with a five-year purchase agreement at 5.99%; and authorize the Community Development Administrator to enter into said agreements as required and with changes approved by the County Attorney’s office. Motion seconded by Supervisor Clapperton, passed unanimously.

Call to the Public

Rick Johnson, spearheading a proposed “Green Hole Project” at Emerald Canyon Golf Course spoke in detail of the latest conversations he had with people pertinent to the project, about their ideas and thoughts. Mr. Johnson stated that he wanted to have a meeting to discuss the possibility of an “over-flight” of the area to obtain the additional information he needed.

Roberta Hoffman, Chairman of the La Paz Economic Development Corporation, thanked the Board for the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding and funding by the County. She stated the EDC’s mission was to improve the quality of life for the citizens of La Paz County.

Joe Denarski, of the Buckskin Valley subdivision located upriver, read at length a letter “on behalf of the residents of that subdivision”, regarding the need of signs for a “no parking” zone. He cited safety reasons for requesting the signs.

Supervisor Clapperton thanked the residents of Buckskin Valley for their concerns, and asked staff to look into the matter for a cost, as well as a legal, analysis of the situation.

Adjournment

Chairman Irwin adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

APPROVED:

Holly Irwin, Chairman

ATTEST:

Dan Field, Clerk of the Board

The following La Paz County demands were audited, approved and ordered paid by the La Paz County Board of Supervisors: #11114153, APS \$31,923.33; #11114154, Arizona Dept. of Revenue \$11,868.93; #11114158, AZ Dept. Environmental Quality \$4,520.00; #11114160, Bank of Nevada \$43,374.99; #11114161, Bankcard Center \$1,486.87; #11114164, Bingham Equipment (2) \$4,273.61; #11114167, CDW Government, Inc. \$1,748.80; #11114168, Central Arizona Project \$3,000.00; #11114171, Conditioned Response Training LLC \$1,100.00; #11114177, Ecology Auto Parts \$63,768.17; #11114179, Elections Operations Services \$13,087.33; #11114181, Empire Southwest \$1,506.27; #11114185, Frontier \$9,815.98; #11114187, Growers Oil Company \$6,892.36; #11114201, Krueger, Phillip \$3,576.00; #11114202, La Paz County Landfill \$14,658.95; #11114204, Lowe's \$1,083.38; #11114207, Matthew Bender & Co, Inc. \$1,454.55; #11114208, MCI Mega Preferred \$1,527.25; #11114210, Mikes Contracting, Inc. \$5,824.17; #11114216, Parker Auto & Marine \$2,573.17; #11114217, Parker Motor Co., Inc. \$150,417.00; #11114218, Parker Office Supply \$2,888.37; #11114221, Paul R. Peterson Construction, Inc. \$12,226.80; #11114224, Printing Plus \$1,928.35; #11114227, Reddy Ice \$1,239.25; #11114237, Schiff, Laurence M.D. \$1,625.00; #11114238, Shamrock Foods Co. \$4,970.52; #11114241, Simpson Norton Corp. \$2,581.21; #11114244, Sourcecorp \$8,763.00; #11114248, SR Roberts, Inc. \$1,139.19; #11114249, Standard Insurance \$11,016.60; #11114251, Sudden Link \$4,407.52; #11114252, Sysco Food

La Paz County Board of Supervisors
Monday, January 5, 2015, 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

Services \$3,601.62; #11114253, Tamco Capital Corporation \$5,412.00; #11114254 TDS Telecom \$1,582.30; #11114257, Thomson West \$2,030.94; #11114258, Tierra Caliente \$1,533.00; #11114259, Tires@wholesale \$4,792.83; #11114261, Tri-State Reporting (2) \$5,873.60; #11114263, U.S. Foodservice, Inc. \$2,013.51; #11114265, Verizon Wireless \$1,943.30; #11114266, Walmart Business \$1,114.74; #11114266, Waxie Sanitary Supply \$3,880.45; #11114268, West Payment Center \$3,010.85; #11114270, White Sheet Free Shopping \$1,105.52; #11114272, AZLGEBT \$188,098.95; #11114278, Abbey Stubbs & Ford, LLC \$7,500.00; #11114279, AHCCCS State Treasurer \$17,675.00; #11114284, APS \$24,676.07; #11114288, Betty Hunter (2) \$1,173.00; #11114302, Elite Customs \$1,928.35; #11114303, Emerald Canyon – Petty Cash \$1,336.86; #11114310, G & K Services \$1,500.78; #11114312, Gloria Eagle, PA-C \$1,000.00; #11114313 Gloria Hernandez \$1,020.00; #11114327, Lakeland Marine \$1,795.41; #11114328, Lamar Companies \$2,400.00; #11114331, Mercury Marine \$7,635.00; #11114334, Motorola \$1,629.86; #11114342, Parker Oil Products, Inc. \$7,028.75; #11114350, Radford, Michael \$1,812.48; #11114357, Sauls Creek Engineering \$5,190.00; #11114358, SBA Structures, LLC \$8,612.88; #11114365, Southwest Gas Corporation \$1,611.25; #11114374, Taser International (2) \$4,708.51; #11114379, Tiger Direct \$2,667.45; #11114381, Titleist \$1,553.02; #11114388, WACOG \$3,000.00; #11114393, Wells Fargo Payment Remittance CTR 3249 \$7,198.12; #11114394, Wendy McHood, Esq. \$1,680.00; #11114396, Western States Petroleum \$1,036.52; #11114399, Yuma County Juvenile \$3,120.00; #11114401, Zion Bank/Public Financial Services \$4,463.48; #11114406, Ashley, Lari \$3,202.78; #11114427, Entrepid, Inc. \$4,000.00; #11114432, Jessica L. Quickle \$8,220.00; #11114434, Jury Systems, Inc. \$1,250.00; #11114437, La Paz County Treasurer \$2,025.47; #11114446, Parker Tree Service \$15,400.00; #11114451, PNC Equipment Finance, LLC \$1,457.50; #11114453, Quartzsite JP \$1,399.05; #11114456, Regional Center For \$6,090.00; #11114457, Rideout Law, PLLC \$2,865.00; #11114458, Rio Del Monte Mine \$2,911.68; #11114467, Skyline Builders and Restoration, Inc. \$94,980.00; #11114474, Tires@wholesale \$2,907.81; #11114478, Tri-State Reporting (2) \$1,329.90; #11114479, U.S. Foodservice, Inc. \$1,499.28; #11114488, Western States Petroleum \$2,270.40; #11114490 Whitney & Whitney, PLLC \$1,185.00.